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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Ninth session
Geneva, 7-18 February 1994
Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

MATTERS RELATING TO COMMITMENTS

The roles of the subsidiary bodies established by the Convention

REVISED PROPOSAL BY THE CO-CHAIRS OF WORKING GROUP I

1. Proceedings

I. Working Group I held a discussion on sub-item 2(c) (The roles of the subsidiary bodies established by the Convention) at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 9 February 1994. Document A/AC.237/46, prepared by the interim secretariat, was taken as a basis for consideration of the subject.

II. Statements under this sub-item were made by representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community and one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77.

III. Having discussed texts presented by the Co-Chairmen (A/AC.237/WG.I/L.18/Rev.1), Working Group I, at its __ meeting, on __ February, recommended for adoption by the Committee, a draft decision on the sub-item.

2. Conclusions

IV. On the recommendation of the Working Group, the Committee adopted decision 9/_, on the roles of the subsidiary bodies established by the Convention which is given in annex I to this report.

GE.94-60406

DRAFT DECISION

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change,

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Decides:

1. To revisit further at its tenth session the functions, roles and terms of reference of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), in order to make final recommendations to COP 1. These recommendations should take into account the result of the interim process, as well as the functions outlined in the annex to this decision.

2. To request the interim secretariat to prepare documentation for consideration at the tenth session of the Committee including proposals on any changes to be made in the allocation of the functions of the subsidiary bodies, the technical, analytical and financial support to enable these bodies to effectively discharge their functions, and the scheduling and periodicity of their meetings.

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3. To carry out, on an interim basis, and, in the light of the entry into force of the Convention on 21 March 1994 requiring that the communications by Annex I Parties should be submitted by 21

September 1994, the most pressing tasks of the subsidiary bodies, in order to contribute to the success of the COP 1, and to make the necessary recommendations thereon for its approval.

4. To allocate, in the context of para. 3 above, the tasks listed in Article 4.2(b), (c) and (d) of the Convention to the existing Working Groups.

5. To reserve the week of 30 January to 3 February 1995 for a possible extension of its eleventh session, should it prove to be necessary, pending a decision at its tenth session and approval by the United Nations General Assembly, bearing in mind the necessity to fulfill the tasks outlined in document A/AC.237/24.

6. To request the interim secretariat to prepare documentation reviewing further the implications of the interim arrangements, and the decisions referred to in paras. 3 to 5 above, for consideration at the tenth session.

7. To request the interim secretariat to develop a plan and budget for the review of the first communications from Annex I Parties, for consideration and adoption at the next session, and for immediate implementation thereafter. In preparing this plan, the interim secretariat should take account of the conclusions adopted at the eighth session as contained in document A/AC.237/41, paragraphs 61 and 62, the views expressed and any submissions made during the present session, and any further comments which may be transmitted to the interim secretariat before 30 April 1994. Documents that have been or will be submitted to the interim secretariat may, upon request by the submitting country or organization, be issued by the interim secretariat in the original language only, and distributed to all delegations.

8. To urge countries and relevant international organizations to

consider what contributions they can make to support the review of Annex I Parties' first national communications.

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9. To note the importance of the scientific and technical assessments and capacity building efforts of the IPCC to the work of the Committee, the COP and its subsidiary bodies, and recommends that funds to support these efforts be sought urgently on a voluntary basis from national Governments and from relevant international organizations.

Annex

Functions to be carried out by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), under the guidance of the COP and drawing upon existing competent international bodies

- Provide assessments of the state of scientific knowledge relating to climate change and its effects (Article 9.2(a));

- Prepare scientific assessments on the effects of measures taken in the implementation of the Convention (Article 9.2(b));

- Identify innovative, efficient state-of-the art technologies and know-how and advise on the ways and means of promoting development and/or transferring of such technologies (Article 9.2(c));

- Provide advice on scientific programmes, international cooperation in research and development related to climate change, as well as on ways and means of supporting endogenous capacity-building in developing countries (Article 9.2(d));

- Respond to scientific, technological and methodological questions that the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies may put to the body (Article 9.2(e));

- Compile and synthesize scientific and technical information on the global situation on climate change;

- Analyze the scientific and technical aspects of national communications for further review by the SBI;

- Provide advice on education programmes;

- Provide advice on human resources and training;

- Assist the Parties to implement Articles 5 and 6 of the Convention.

Functions to be carried out by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)

- Advise the COP on policies, eligibility criteria and programme priorities related to the financial mechanism, as well as on transfer of technology;

- Consider the information communicated in accordance with

Article 12, paragraph 1, to assess the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by the Parties in the light of the latest scientific assessments concerning climate change (Article 10.2(a));

- Consider the information communicated in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 2, in order to assist the Conference of the Parties in carrying out the reviews required by Article 4, paragraph 2(d) (Article 10.2(b));

- Review national communications on the basis of the scientific and technical analysis provided, upon request, by the SBSTA;

- Assist the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate, in the preparation and implementation of its decisions (Article 10.2(c));

- Prepare the report on implementation to be submitted to the COP;

- Advise on issues such as resolution of questions, dispute settlement and compliance/enforcement mechanisms.

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